

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 3110.22US02

Hochschulder et al.

Confirmation No.: 7691

Application No.: 10/804,761

Examiner: Michael J. Araj

Filed: March 19, 2004

Group Art Unit: 3775

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING A VERTEBRAL BODY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of the above-referenced application, and be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The listing of a reference herein is not an admission that the reference is prior art or is material to patentability. 37 CFR § 1.97(h). Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of any claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or prove that this information may not be enabling for any aspect of the information provided herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed without a certification or fee because this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action and in connection with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR § 1.114. No certification or fee is required. 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(4).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BP', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Brad Pedersen
Registration No. 32,432

Customer No. 24113
Patterson, Thunte, Skaar & Christensen, P.A.
4800 IDS Center
80 South 8th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100
Telephone: (612) 349-5774

Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 16-0631.